



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/628,306	07/29/2003	Iwao Nakamura	Q76748	4471

65565 7590 11/13/2007
SUGHRUE-265550
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20037-3213

EXAMINER

KIANERSI, MITRA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2145

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

11/13/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/628,306	Applicant(s) NAKAMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner Mitra Kianersi	Art Unit 2145	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05222007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 23-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07202003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05222007, 07292003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 23-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Minari. (US Patent No: US 6,809,831).

Claim 23: A print control method using a server and a plurality of print systems that can communicate with each other through a network, (in Minari's invention, a print control system in which an information processor is connected to a plurality of printers, a print job that includes a plurality of instructions and print data associated with the plurality of instructions are received from a network), the print control method comprising:

- a print request step of transmitting to the server a print information request which requests print object data and control information for printing the print object data by the print system, in the print control system, (application receives a print request from the user, the print job object is generated by the print job generator, and next it the generated print job object is sent to the printer by the print job transmitter. (col 5, lines 28-32)

- a transmission step of transmitting the print object data and the control information to the print system when the print information request is received in the server (in the next step, it judges whether or not the printer successfully received the print job object. If the printer successfully received the print job object, then it informs the application program 203 that the print job was successfully transmitted to the printer. Col 5, lines 33-38)

- a print step of printing the print object data using the control information, in the print system. (Print job attribute section 502 that stores the print job attributes displayed on the set screen shown in FIG. 2 or set on the set screens and other print job attributes

Art Unit: 2145

and a print data section 503 that stores print data output by the output units 105 and 106 based on the attributes. (Col 4, lines 16-27)

Claim 24: The print control method further comprising:

- a print setup transmission step of transmitting print setup information of the print object data to the server in a distributor terminal which can communicate with the server through the network (a print job receiver 207 receives the print job object from the network via the communication interface 206. col 3, lines 30-32)

- a control information generation step of generating the control information on the basis of the print setup information when the print setup information is received, in the server.

(Printer controllers comprise a communication I/F 401 that controls the interface operations between the network and an apparatus, a print job receiver that receives a print job object 110 from host computers 101 and 102, a print job executor 403 that analyzes the print job object received by the print job receiver 402 and processes the print job, a print job transmitter 404 that informs host computers 101 and 102 of the results of the print job processing or transmits the print job object 110 to a substitute printer. Col 3, lines 64-67 and col 4, lines 1-6)

Claim 25: The print control method further comprising:

- a screen request step of transmitting a screen transmission request which request screen information for transmitting the print information request, in the print system, (FIG. 3 is one example of a set screen of a print job displayed on the display 208. A print job attribute of the print job object is displayed on this set screen. Further, the user can set the print job attribute of the print job object on this set screen. Col 3, lines 30-32)

- a screen transmission step of transmitting the screen information to the print system when the screen transmission request is received, in the server, wherein, in the print request stage, the print information request is transmitted by using the screen information. (The job name of the print job "Job 1" is displayed and set in the job name display 300. The name of the printer "Printer 1" and the URL address of the printer are displayed and set in the printer name display 301. The document name that

the user produces with an application program and wishes to print "Document A" is displayed and set in the document name display 302. Col 3, lines 41-46)

Claim 26: The print control method wherein in the screen transmission stage, the screen information for displaying information which represents an outline of the print object data is transmitted to the print system. (The priority of a print job is displayed and set in the priority display 303. In FIG. 3, "Average" is set as the priority of the print job. The number of pages to be printed is displayed and set in the pages-to-print display 304. In FIG. 3, "All" pages are set to be printed. The number of copies to be printed is displayed and set in the copies display 305. Col 3, lines 47-54)

Claim 27: The print control method further comprising:

- a print setup transmission step of transmitting print setup information of the print object data to the server, in the distributor terminal which can communicate with the server through the network, a print job receiver 207 receives the print job object from the network via the communication interface 206. Col 3, lines 30-32)

- a control information generation step of generating the control information on the basis of the print setup information when the print setup information is received, in the server. (Printer controllers comprise a communication I/F 401 that controls the interface operations between the network and an apparatus, a print job receiver that receives a print job object 110 from host computers 101 and 102, a print job executor 403 that analyzes the print job object received by the print job receiver 402 and processes the print job, a print job transmitter 404 that informs host computers 101 and 102 of the results of the print job processing or transmits the print job object 110 to a substitute printer. Col 3, lines 64-67 and col 4, lines 1-6)

Claim 28: The print control method wherein in the screen transmission stage, the screen information for displaying at least a part of the print setup information is transmitted to the print system. (The priority of a print job is displayed and set in the priority display 303. In FIG. 3, "Average" is set as the priority of the print job. The number of pages to be printed is displayed and set in the pages-to-print display 304. In FIG. 3, "All" pages

Art Unit: 2145

are set to be printed. The number of copies to be printed is displayed and set in the copies display 305. Col 3, lines 47-54)

Claim 29: The print control method further comprising an address notification step of notifying an address for transmitting the screen transmission request to a user of the print system which is designated in advance when the print setup information is received, in the control information generation step. (in step S801 it awaits being informed of the print result from the printer 107. If it is informed of the print result (S801-Yes), in step S802 it receives this result. Then in step S803 it informs the application program 203 of that result. The application program 203 displays to the user the print result if necessary. Col 5, lines 48-53)

Claims 30 and 37 teach the same limitation as independent claim 23 and are rejected by the same rational.

Claims 31 and 38 teach the same limitation as claim 24 and are rejected by the same rational.

Claims 32 and 39 teach the same limitation as claim 25 and are rejected by the same rational.

Claims 33 and 40 teach the same limitation as claim 26 and are rejected by the same rational

Claims 34 and 41 teach the same limitation as claim 27 and are rejected by the same rational.

Claims 35 and 42 teach the same limitation as claim 28 and are rejected by the same rational.

Claims 36 and 43 teach the same limitation as claim 29 and are rejected by the same rational.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mitra Kianersi whose telephone number is (571) 272-3915. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cordone can be reached on (571) 272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mitra Kianersi
November/07/2007


JASON CARDONE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER